

Lab 9 - NIDS/NIPS and Web Proxy Analysis
University of Maryland Baltimore County

Presented to: (professor's name removed)

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Introduction

While working with Division of IT at University of Maryland Baltimore County, for their Digital Forensics and Incident Response team, I have been tasked to a) Perform log analysis on IDS/IPS alerts (Snort) to become familiar with alert formats and using them to investigate potentially malicious traffic and b) Perform log analysis on Proxy logs (Squid) to become familiar with proxy log formats, and how to review them to investigate web related traffic. The methodology adopted for the analysis of the given alert, tcpdump.log, snort.conf, access.log and store.log files is done by using a combination of tools and linux terminal commands– wireshark, hex editor, grep command and MS Excel. This task encompasses in detail analysis of the logs and alerts generated by Network Intrusion Protection and Detection Systems (NIDS/NIPS).

In this fictitious scenario, you'll be provided IDS/IPS alert data and proxy logs in an effort to assist an investigation.

In his quest to save the planet, InterOptic has started a credit card number recycling program. “Do you have a database filled with credit card numbers, just sitting there collecting dust? Put that data to good use!” he writes on his website. “Recycle your company’s used credit card numbers! Send us your database, and we’ll send YOU a check.” For good measure, InterOptic decides to add some bells and whistles to the site too.

Meanwhile.... MacDaddy Payment Processor has deployed Snort NIDS sensors to detect an array of anomalous events, both inbound and outbound. An alert was logged at 08:01:45 on 5/18/11 concerning an inbound chunk of executable code sent to port 80/tcp for inside host 192.168.1.169 from external host 172.16.16.218.

Alert:

```
[1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [] [Classification: Executable code was detected][Priority: 1] 5/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493 TCP TTL: 63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen: 20 DgmLen: 1127 DF AP Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20
```

Network:

Internal network: 192.168.1.0/24 DMZ network: 10.1.1.0/24 “Internet”: 172.16.16.0/24 Other domains and subnets of interest include: .evl – a top level domain used by Evil Systems Example.com – MacDaddy Payment Processor local domain

The security staff at MacDaddy Payment Processor collects the Snort alerts for the day in question and preserves the “tcpdump.log” file that corresponds with the alerts. At your request, they also gather the relevant Snort sensor’s config and rules. You are provided with the following files containing data to analyze:

- **Alert** – A text file containing the Snort sensor’s default “alert” output, including the alert of interest above
- **Tcpdump.log** – A libpcap generated file that contains full-content packet captures of the packets involved in the events summarized in the above alert file.
- **Snort.conf** – A text file containing the configuration description of the Snort sensor, including the rules
- **Rules** – A folder containing the Snort rules that were in use by the sensor, as included by the configuration above.

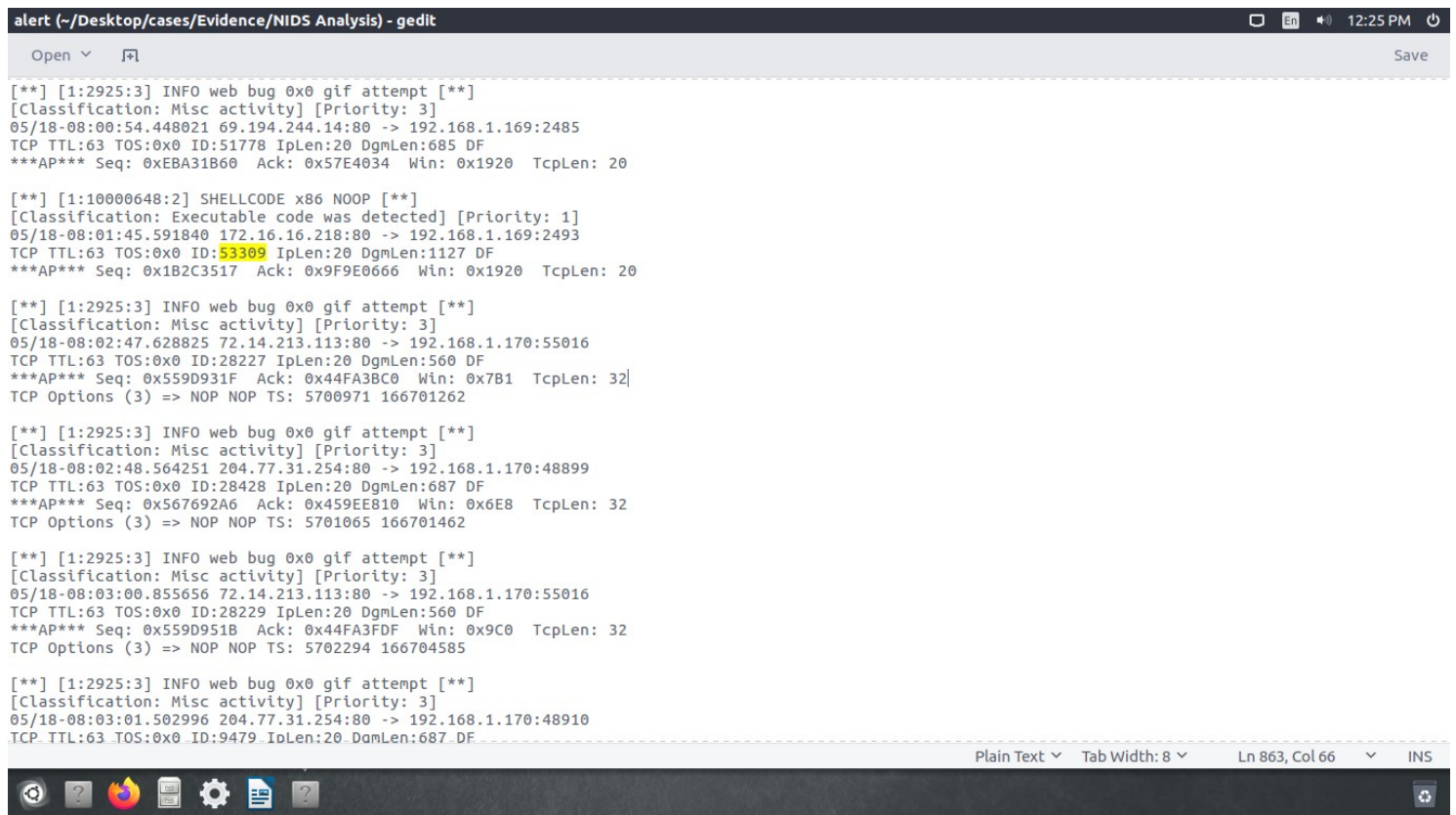
All files are located under the /cases/Evidence/ within the IDS/IPS Alert Analysis folder.

Analysis

1. IDS/IPS Alert Background (Part 1)

1.1 Examine the alert's data to understand the logistical context

Figure 1.1.1, we analyse the alert and note: Source IP: 172.16.16.218 (Source Port :80) and Destination IP: 192.168.1.169:2493, Packet Delivery ID : 53309, Snort ID: 10000648, IPlink : 20 and Datagram link : 1127



```
alert ~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis) - gedit
Open  Save
[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 glf attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:00:54.448021 69.194.244.14:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2485
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:51778 IpLen:20 DgmLen:685 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0xEBA31B60 Ack: 0x57E4034 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:10000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 glf attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:02:47.628825 72.14.213.113:80 -> 192.168.1.170:55016
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28227 IpLen:20 DgmLen:560 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x559D931F Ack: 0x44FA3BC0 Win: 0x7B1 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5700971 166701262

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 glf attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:02:48.564251 204.77.31.254:80 -> 192.168.1.170:48899
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28428 IpLen:20 DgmLen:687 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x567692A6 Ack: 0x459EE810 Win: 0x6E8 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5701065 166701462

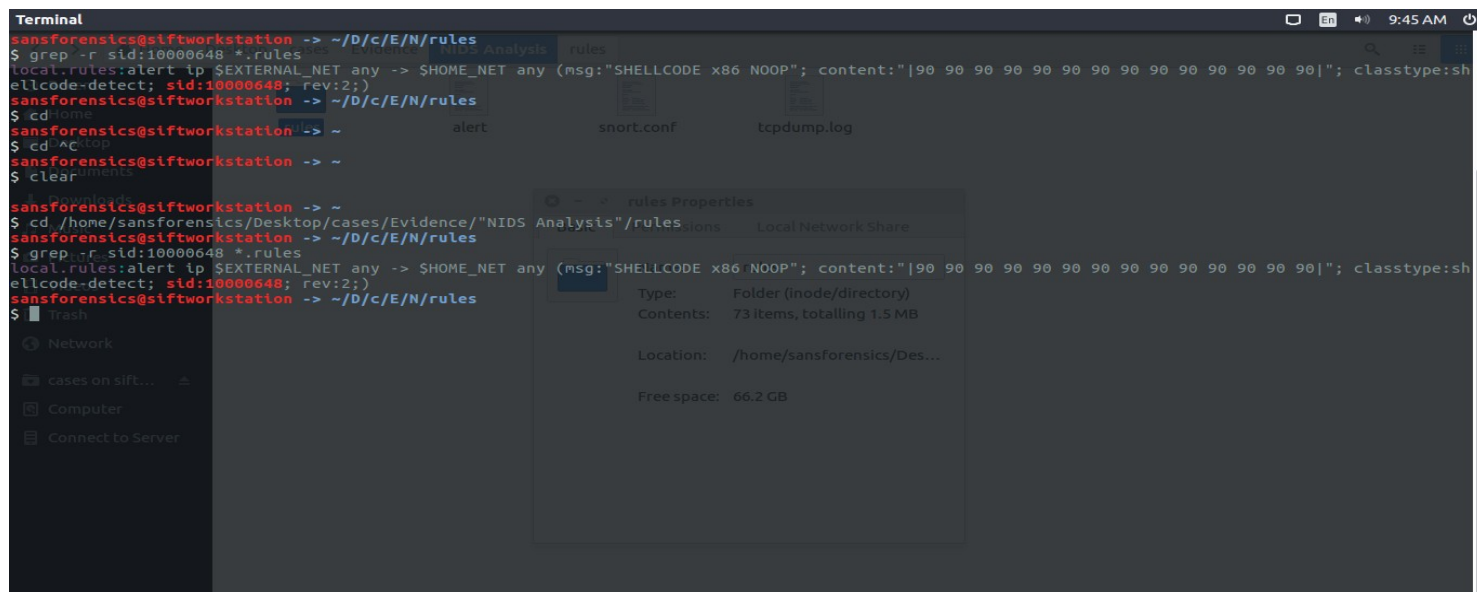
[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 glf attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:03:00.855656 72.14.213.113:80 -> 192.168.1.170:55016
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28229 IpLen:20 DgmLen:560 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x559D951B Ack: 0x44FA3FDF Win: 0x9C0 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5702294 166704585

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 glf attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:03:01.502996 204.77.31.254:80 -> 192.168.1.170:48910
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:9479 IpLen:20 DgmLen:687 DF
Plain Text Tab Width: 8 Ln 863, Col 66 INS
```

Figure 1.1.1

1.2 Compare the alert to the rule, in order to better understand WHAT it has been built to detect:

Figure 1.2.1, using the snort ID we use `cd /home/sansforensics/Desktop/cases/Evidence/"NIDS Analysis"/rules` and then `grep -r sid:10000648 *.rules` to find the `shellcode-detect` among a list of `.rules` files and understand more about alert and the rule using the sid and find that `local.rule` file mentions the `classtype : shellcode-detect`



```
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~/D/c/E/N/rules
$ grep -r sid:10000648 *.rules
local.rules:alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"|90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90|"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:10000648; rev:2;)
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~/D/c/E/N/rules
$ cd /home
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~
$ cd /home
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~
$ clear

sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~
$ cd /home/sansforensics/Desktop/cases/Evidence/"NIDS Analysis"/rules
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~/D/c/E/N/rules
$ grep -r sid:10000648 *.rules
local.rules:alert ip $EXTERNAL_NET any -> $HOME_NET any (msg:"SHELLCODE x86 NOOP"; content:"|90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90|"; classtype:shellcode-detect; sid:10000648; rev:2;)
sansforensics@siftworkstation -> ~/D/c/E/N/rules
$
```

Figure 1.2.1

1.3 Retrieve the packet that triggered the alert

Figure 1.3.1 and 1.3.2, we open the `tcpdump.log` file in Wireshark and use the filter `ip.id==53309` to analyse the packet and we were able to find `Seq: 0x1B2C3517` and `Ack: 0x9F9E0666` within TCP hex dump.

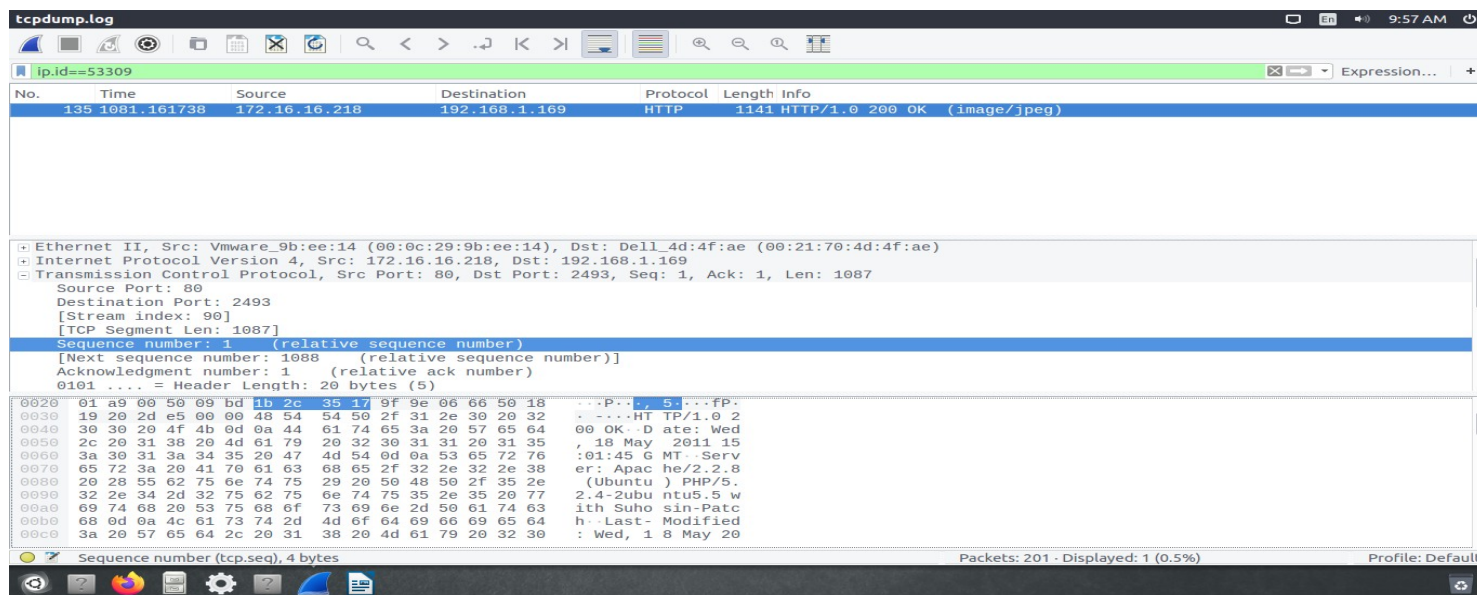


Figure 1.3.1

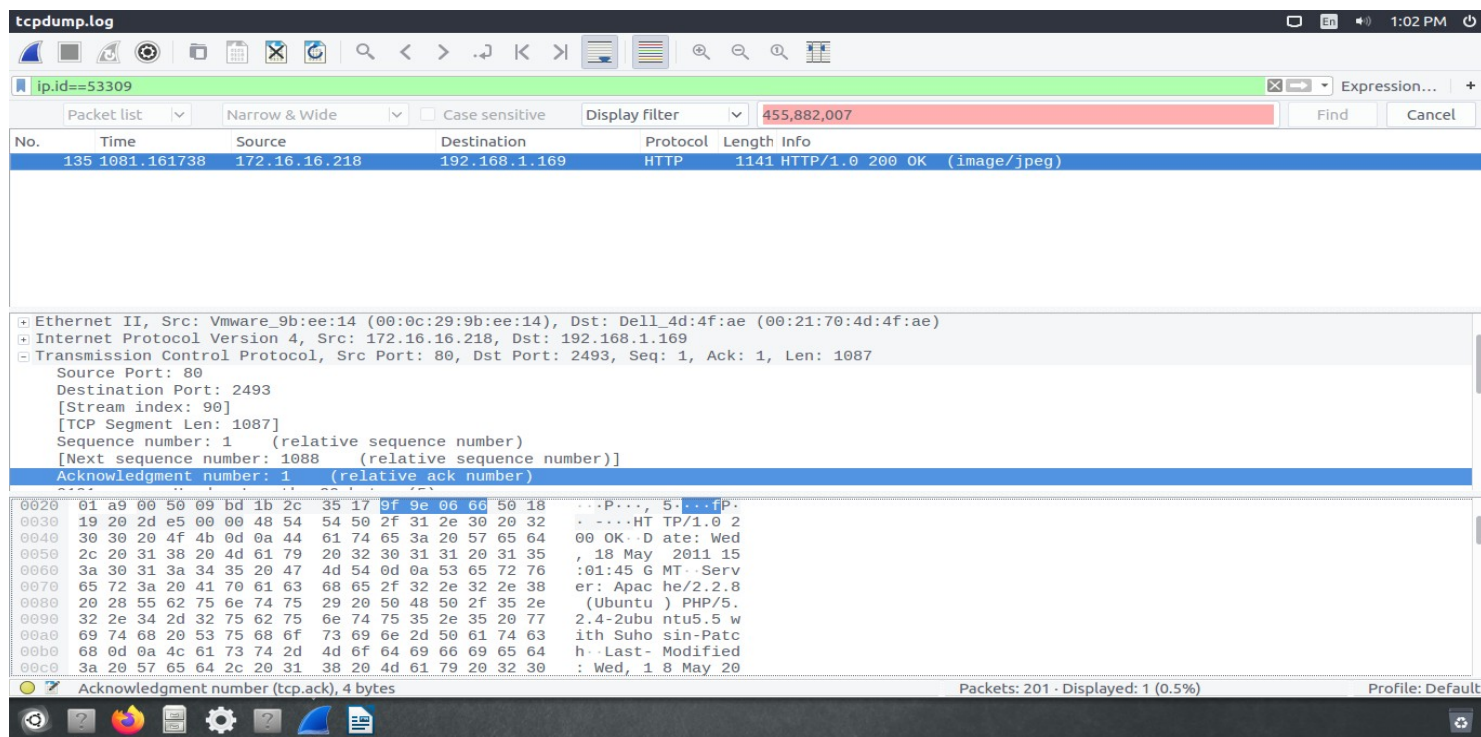


Figure 1.3.2

1.4 Compare the rule to the packet to understand WHY it fired

Figure 1.4.1 and 1.4.2, we compare the rule and packet and find that the rule is set to detect suspicious content from an external IP to port 80 and here an image file is being transferred with potentially malicious shellcode.

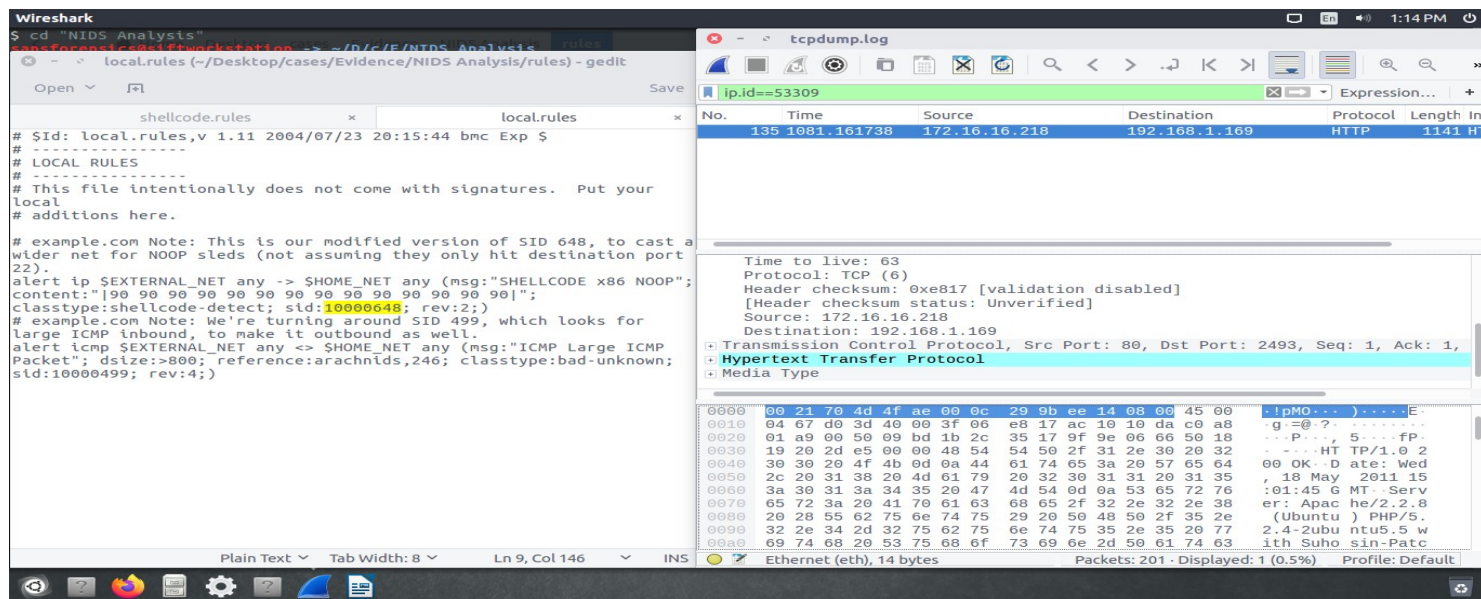


Figure 1.4.1

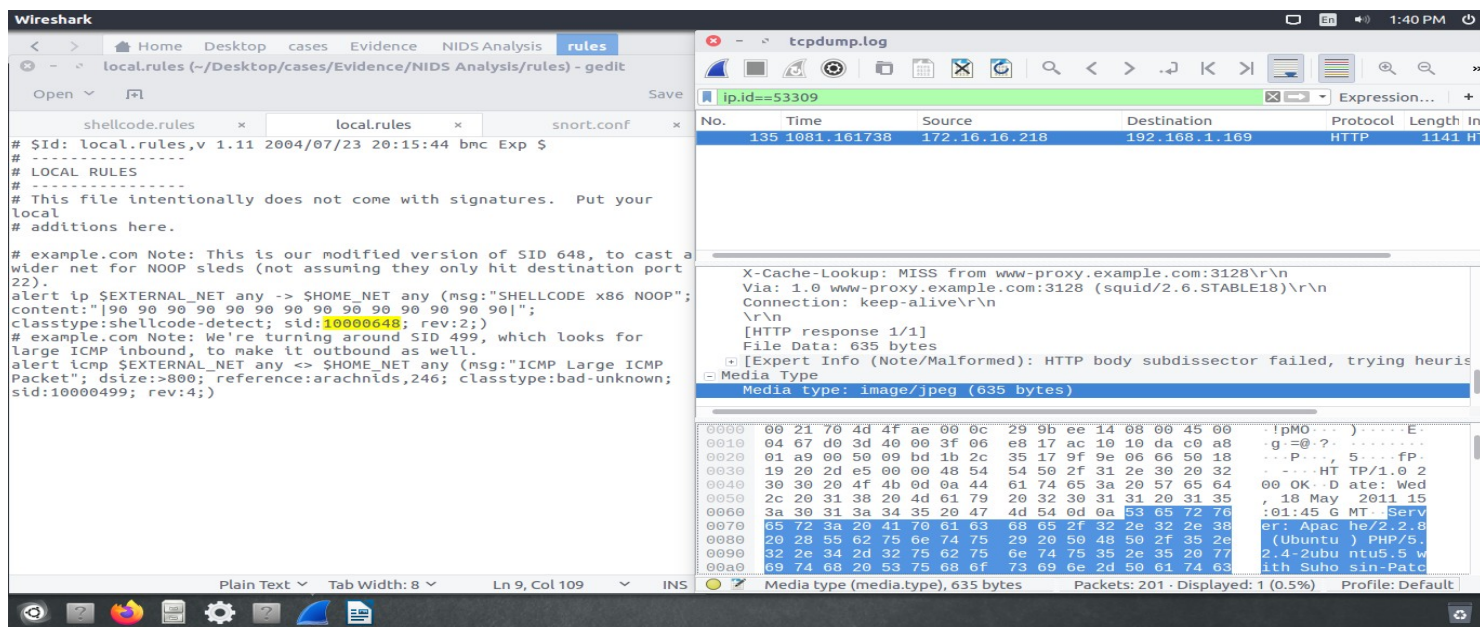


Figure 1.4.2

1.5 Construct a timeline of alerted activities involving the potentially malicious outside host

In Figure 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 1.5.3 and 1.5.4:

- at 07:43:51 we detect “COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect [**] [Classification: Misc activity]” from 204.11.50.137:80 to internal host 192.168.1.169
- From 07:43:52 to 08:15:08, we detect “INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**] [Classification: Misc activity]” from different external hosts to internal hosts like 192.168.1.169, 192.168.1.170etc
- In between the above time frame, at 08:01:45 MST we also detect “SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**] [Classification: Executable code was detected]”, from an external web server 172.16.16.218:80 to 192.168.1.169

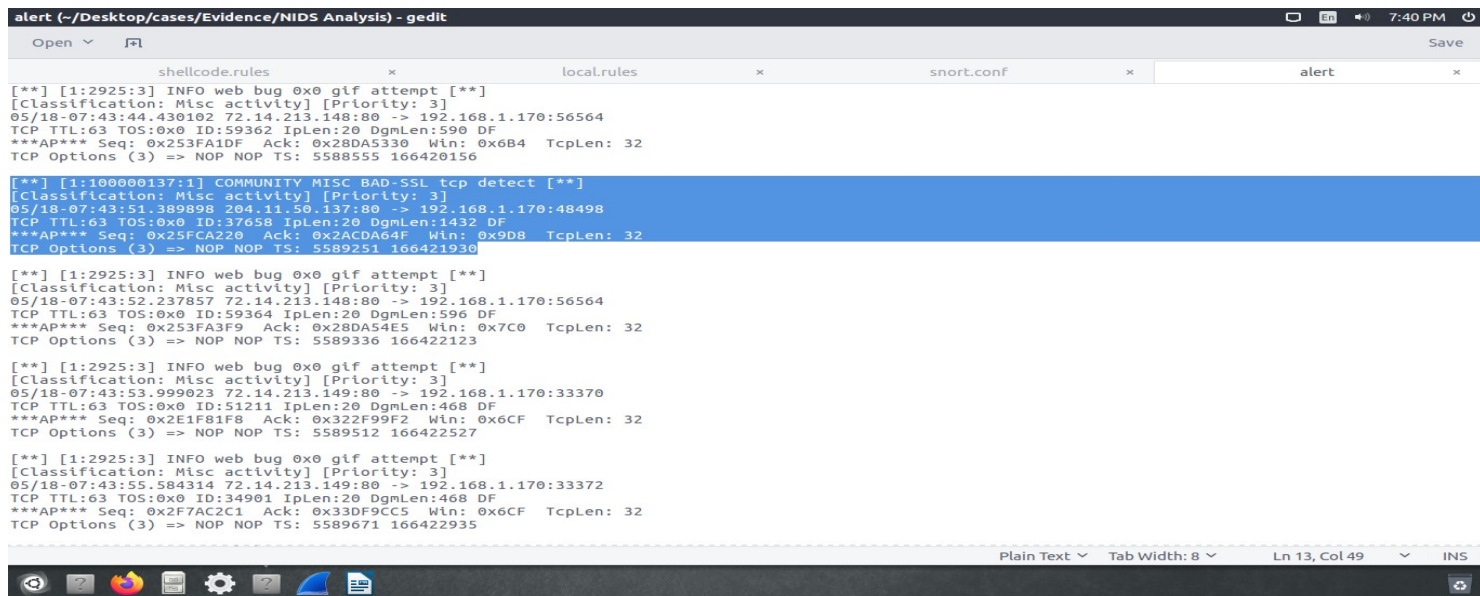


Figure 1.5.1

```
alert (~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis) - gedit
Open  Save
shellcode.rules x local.rules x snort.conf x alert x

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:44.430102 72.14.213.148:80 -> 192.168.1.170:56564
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:59362 IpLen:20 DgmLen:590 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x253FA1DF Ack: 0x28DA5330 Win: 0x6B4 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5588555 166420156

[**] [1:100000137:1] COMMUNITY MISC BAD-SSL tcp detect [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:51.389898 204.11.50.137:80 -> 192.168.1.170:48498
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:37658 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1432 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x25FCA220 Ack: 0x2ACDA64F Win: 0x9D8 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5589251 166421930

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:52.237057 72.14.213.148:80 -> 192.168.1.170:56564
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:59364 IpLen:20 DgmLen:596 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x253FA3F9 Ack: 0x28DA54E5 Win: 0x7C0 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5589336 166422123

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:53.999023 72.14.213.149:80 -> 192.168.1.170:33370
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:51211 IpLen:20 DgmLen:468 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x2E1F81F8 Ack: 0x322F99F2 Win: 0x6CF TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5589512 166422527

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:43:55.584314 72.14.213.149:80 -> 192.168.1.170:33372
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:34901 IpLen:20 DgmLen:468 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x2F7AC2C1 Ack: 0x33DF9CC5 Win: 0x6CF TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5589671 166422935

Plain Text Tab Width: 8 Ln 20, Col 49 INS
```

Figure 1.5.2

```
alert (~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/NIDS Analysis) - gedit
Open  Save
shellcode.rules x local.rules x snort.conf x alert x

TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:21615 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1029 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x09F7A69B Ack: 0x25E4A8F0 Win: 0x21A2 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:00:54.448021 69.194.244.14:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2485
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:51778 IpLen:20 DgmLen:685 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0xEBA31B60 Ack: 0x57E4034 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:100000648:2] SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**]
[Classification: Executable code was detected] [Priority: 1]
05/18-08:01:45.591840 172.16.16.218:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2493
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:53309 IpLen:20 DgmLen:1127 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x1B2C3517 Ack: 0x9F9E0666 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:02:47.628825 72.14.213.113:80 -> 192.168.1.170:55016
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28227 IpLen:20 DgmLen:560 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x559D931F Ack: 0x44FA3BC0 Win: 0x7B1 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5700971 166701262

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:02:48.564251 204.77.31.254:80 -> 192.168.1.170:48899
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28428 IpLen:20 DgmLen:687 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x567692A6 Ack: 0x459EE810 Win: 0x6E8 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5701065 166701462

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:03:00.855656 72.14.213.113:80 -> 192.168.1.170:55016
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:28229 IpLen:20 DgmLen:560 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x559D951B Ack: 0x44FA3FDF Win: 0x9C0 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5702294 166704585

Plain Text Tab Width: 8 Ln 857, Col 67 INS
```

Figure 1.5.3


```
***AP*** Seq: 0xBE039E0D Ack: 0xABF0BCC8 Win: 0x7DA TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5739479 166797574

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:09:12.925492 72.14.213.113:80 -> 192.168.1.170:58142
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:3526 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:560 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0xBE03A009 Ack: 0xABFDC52F Win: 0xD82 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5739499 166797607

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:09:12.985289 64.94.107.27:80 -> 192.168.1.170:52865
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:1496 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:498 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0xBDD4960A Ack: 0xAC31A280 Win: 0x776 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5739505 166797609

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:15:06.474654 64.30.224.42:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2634
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:24543 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:639 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x5EA4839 Ack: 0x2CDA0DE Win: 0x2180 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:15:08.286168 216.239.113.95:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2650
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:57018 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:728 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x95FC010 Ack: 0x9C6308FA Win: 0x1A28 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-08:15:08.361442 138.108.28.10:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2649
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:46682 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:545 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0xA06A8C7 Ack: 0xB9C8BD0C Win: 0x1B28 TcpLen: 20
```

Figure 1.5.4

1.6 Construct a timeline of alerted activities involving the target

Figure 1.6.1, 1.6.2:

- at 08:01:45 MST we detect “SHELLCODE x86 NOOP [**] [Classification: Executable code was detected]”, from an external web server 172.16.16.218:80 to 192.168.1.169. This signifies the malicious intent to inject shellcode.
- and at 08:15:08, we detect “INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**] [Classification: Misc activity]” from different external hosts to internal host 192.168.1.169. This type of alert was also found at many other instances.

```
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:45:00.179227 207.171.185.201:80 -> 192.168.1.170:59891
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:9883 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:693 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x6AFC454F Ack: 0x711BD654 Win: 0x6B4 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5596130 166439099

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:45:09.351488 207.46.140.21:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2127
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:5298 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:607 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x72F77253 Ack: 0xF2E55562 Win: 0x1B20 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:45:09.834604 207.46.193.178:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2132
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:65214 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:455 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x739099DC Ack: 0x1D01478F Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:45:10.109334 204.236.235.239:80 -> 192.168.1.170:50817
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:55589 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:442 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x53F38488 Ack: 0x5A3E2668 Win: 0x7D2 TcpLen: 32
TCP Options (3) => NOP NOP TS: 5597123 166439220

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:45:51.204013 65.54.95.43:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2142
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:48309 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:809 DF
***AP*** Seq: 0x924FC8F4 Ack: 0x24DF9700 Win: 0x1920 TcpLen: 20

[**] [1:2925:3] INFO web bug 0x0 gif attempt [**]
[Classification: Misc activity] [Priority: 3]
05/18-07:46:15.877801 207.46.140.21:80 -> 192.168.1.169:2151
TCP TTL:63 TOS:0x0 ID:12736 Iplen:20 Dgmlen:607 DF
```

Figure 1.6.1

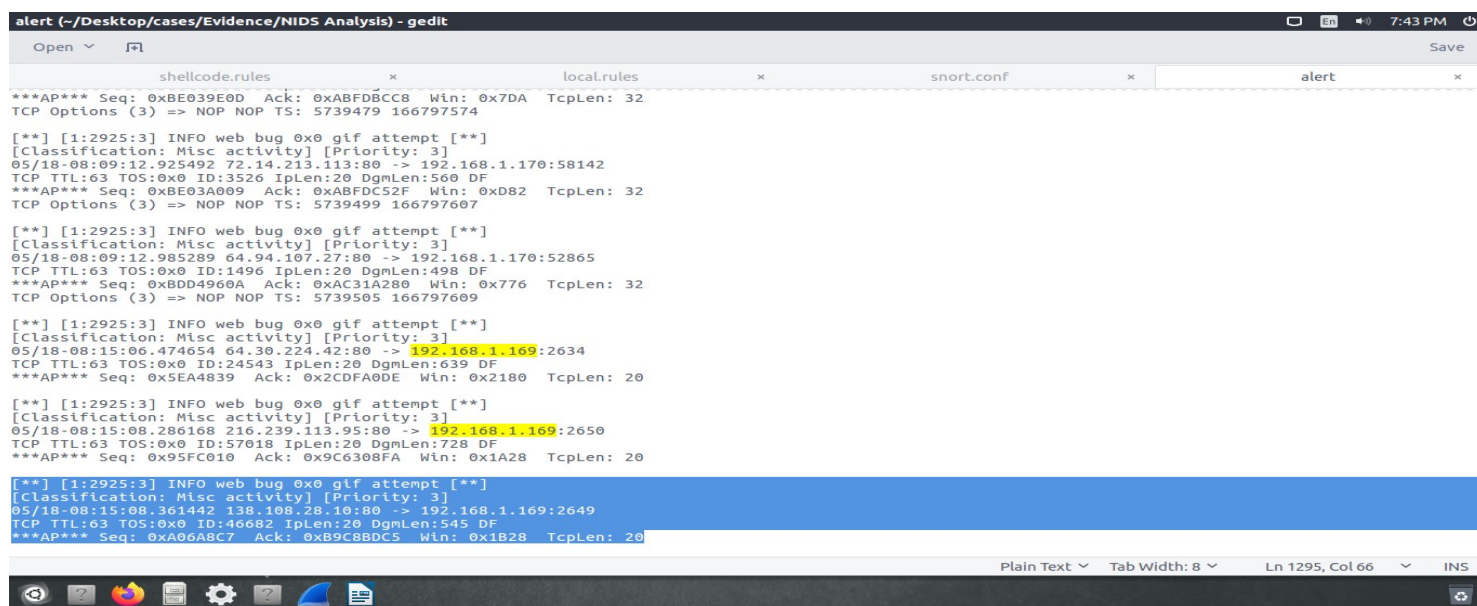


Figure 1.6.2

2. Proxy Log Background (Part 2)

2.1 Determine whether the evidence extracted from the Squid cache corroborates our findings from the Snort logs.

Figure 2.1.1, an unusual binary sequence that is commonly associated with buffer overflow exploits was found in ETag in the external webserver's HTTP response : **1238-27b-4a38236f5d880**.

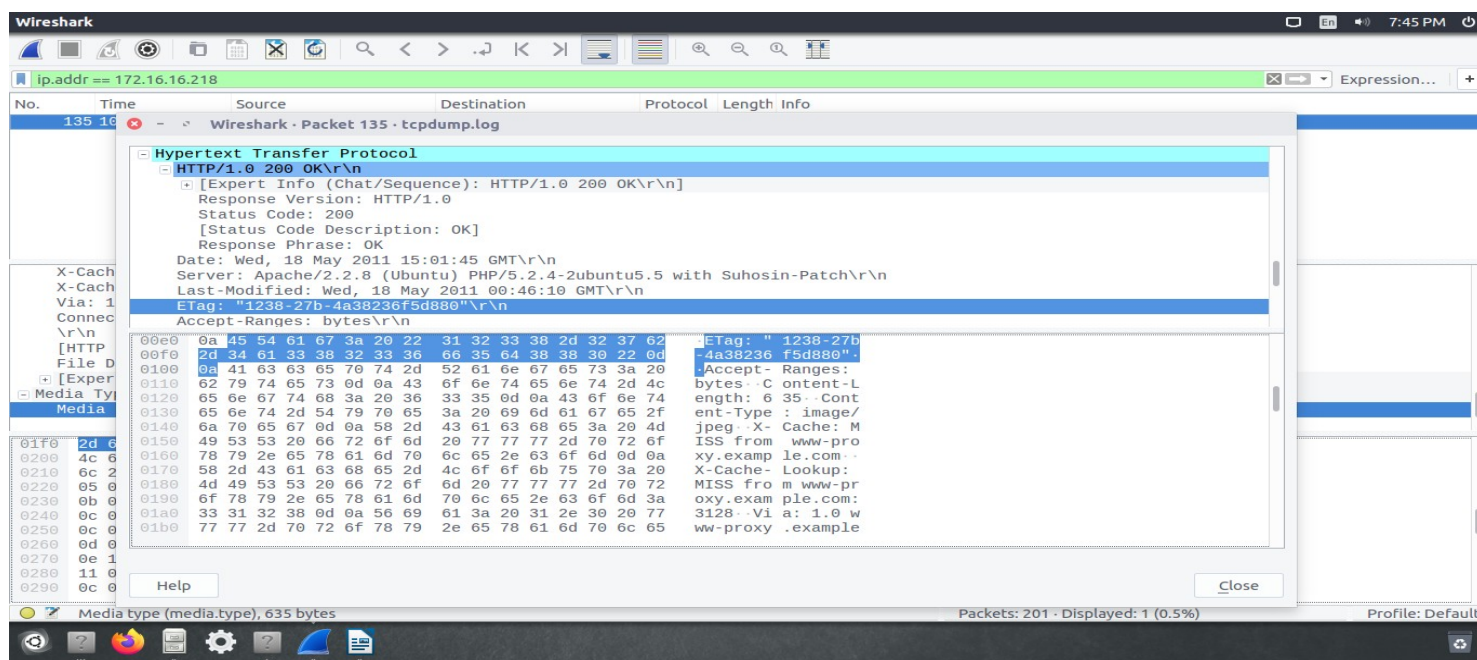


Figure 2.1.1

Figure 2.1.2, we use `cd /home/sansforensics/Desktop/cases/Evidence/"Proxy Log Analysis"/squid` and then `grep -r '1238-27b-4a38236f5d880'` to look for file with the matching ETag sequence and we find that a binary file with location `"00/05/0000058A"` has matched our search.

```

Terminal
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-transactions4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-enterpriseservices4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-numeric4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-data4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-runtime-serialization-formatters-soap4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-webbrowser4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Failed to fetch http://us.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/pool/main/n/mono/libmono-system-windows-forms4.0-cil_4.2.1.102+dfsg2-7ubuntu4_all.deb Temporary failure resolving 'us.archive.ubuntu.com'
E: Unable to fetch some archives, maybe run apt-get update or try with --fix-missing?
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~$ cd /home/sansforensics/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r '1238-27b-4a38236f5d880'
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ cd Proxy Log Analysis
bash: cd: Proxy: No such file or directory
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$ cd "Proxy Log Analysis"
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis$ cd squid
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r '1238-27b-4a38236f5d880'
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$ grep -r '1238-27b-4a38236f5d880'
Binary file 00/05/0000058A matches
sansforensics@siftworkstation:~/Desktop/cases/Evidence/Proxy Log Analysis/squid$

```

Figure 2.1.2

Figure 2.1.3, we open the binary file 0000058A, using Bless Hex Editor and could verify the matching ETag sequence - `1238-27b-4a38236f5d880`. We were also able to find the location `http://www.evil.evl/pwny.jpg` of the malicious JPEG file, `pwny.jpg` in ASCII characters.

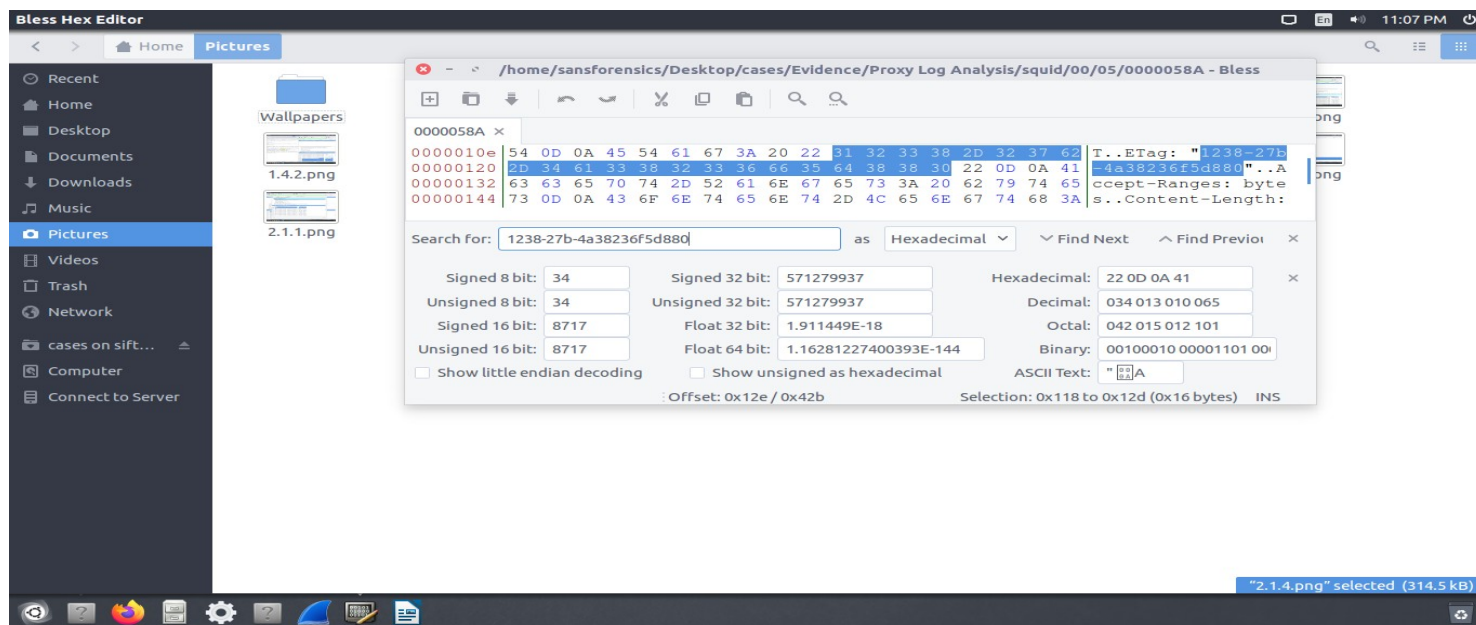


Figure 2.1.3

Figure 2.1.4, using `cd /home/sansforensics/Desktop/cases/Evidence/"Proxy Log Analysis"/squid` and then `grep -r "http://www.evil.evl/pwny.jpg"` we search for the .jpg file's url among other cache files in the squid directory and find two binary file matches **0000058A** and **00000589**.

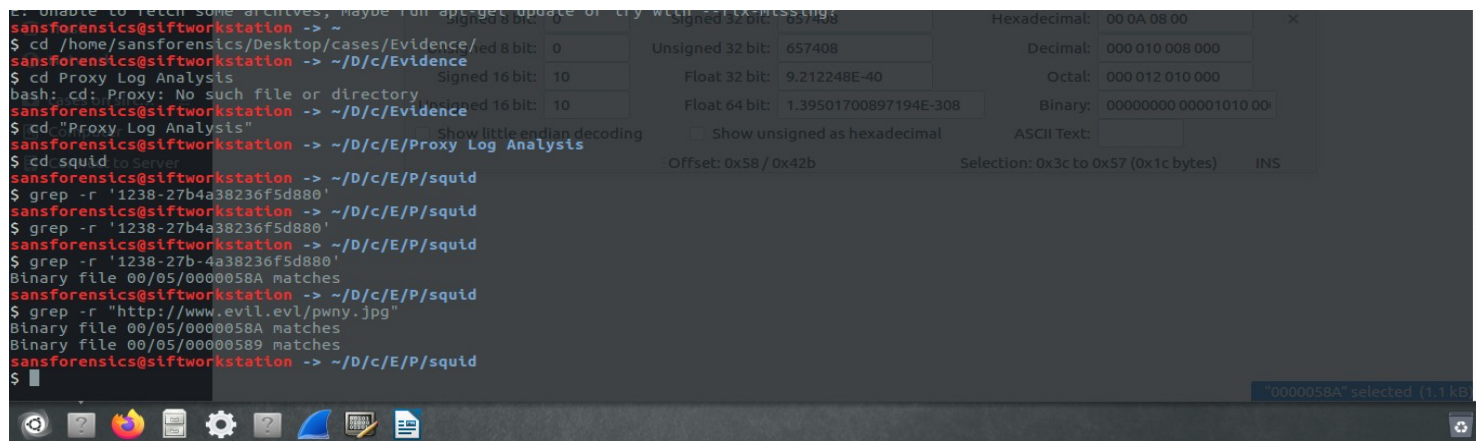


Figure 2.1.4

2.2 Present any information you can find regarding the identity of any internal users who have been engaged in suspicious activities.

Figure 2.2.1 and 2.2.2, we copy the **access.log** and **store.log** files from **var-log-squid.zip** to a Windows machine to open them using MS Excel and filter them using 192.168.1.169. Then we hit and try different epoch timestamps to match with the alert timestamp. For this we use an online converter (**figure 2.2.3**) and find out that **1305729906**, **1305730906** and **1305731047** (blue color coded) are the closest timestamps corresponding to **07:45:06** (when internal host 192.168.1.169 started browsing external web sites), **08:01:46** (when alert triggered for shellcode injection) and **08:04:07** (when internal host 192.168.1.169 sent crafted packets to other internal hosts).

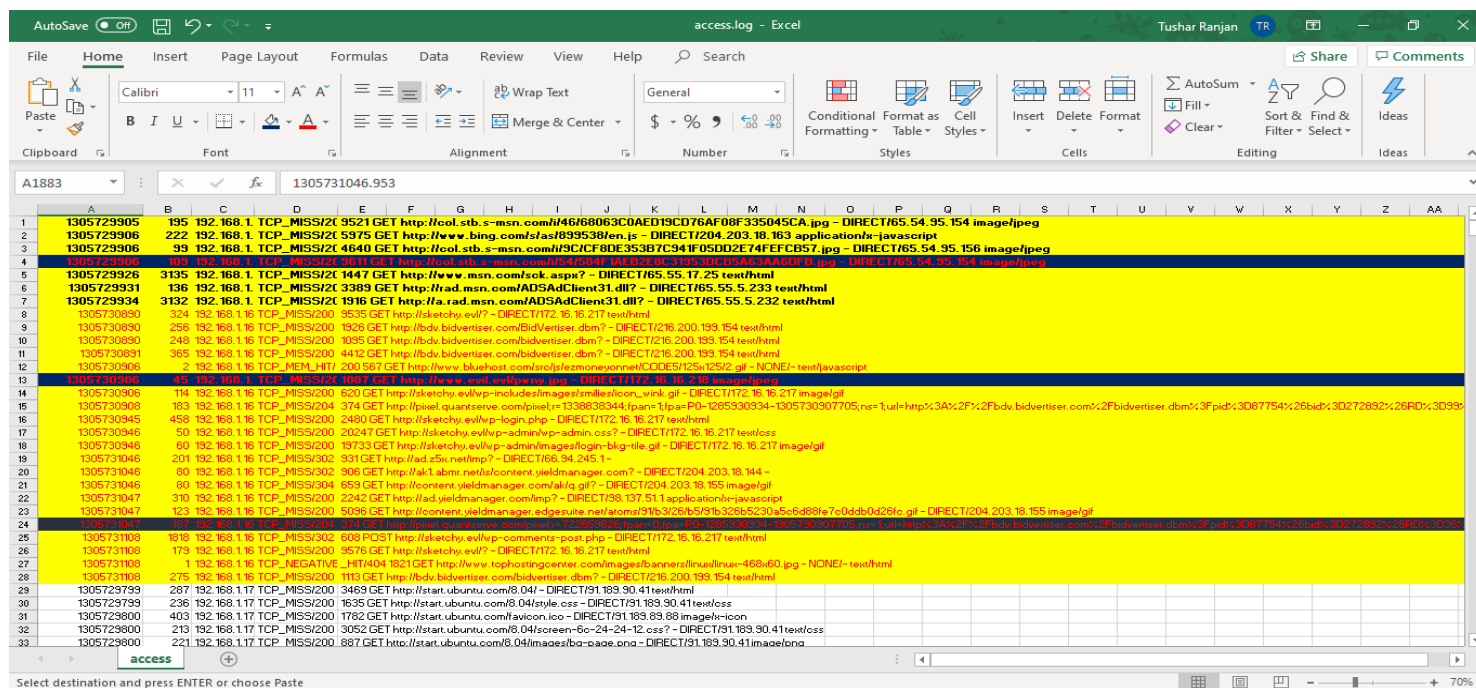


Figure 2.2.1

After careful analysis of activities from both access.log and store.log files around the aforementioned timestamps, we find out that the internal user was browsing images on various external websites, among which also happened to show some activity with .evl websites like <http://sketchy.evl/?>, www.evil.evl/pwny.jpg (.evl is a top level domain used by Evil Systems). This user also seems to have admin access to one of the .evl website because there are traces of login attempts to admin profiles.

AutoSave		store.log - Excel		Tushar Ranjan	
File		Home		Insert	
Clipboard		Font		Alignment	
Paste		Number		Editing	
E21		B87FDF41E69194CEB962197558758824			
1	1305729905	SWAPOUT	0	119 6396CF43751	200
2	1305729905	SWAPOUT	0	0000011A 1225F1B866F	200
3	1305729906	SWAPOUT	0	0000011B 1C1A5C8580F	200
4	1305729906	SWAPOUT	0	0000011C 889C04CBC0F	200
5	1305729906	SWAPOUT	0	0000011D E9FD80C9E41	200
6	1305730890	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF DAAA1189C6	200
7	1305730891	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF F1B6D0DDFF	200
8	1305730906	SWAPOUT	0	0000058A 77731AD2D3	200
9	1305730906	SWAPOUT	0	0000058B 909AD2C9325	200
10	1305730908	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 38683EB37B7	204
11	1305731047	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 6350A079B2A	200
12	1305731047	SWAPOUT	0	000005BF D2602270BC5	200
13	1305731047	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 898DC7838E6	204
14	1305731108	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 7D6E7C0EC5	302
15	1305731108	SWAPOUT	0	000005C0 90C44D922C2	200
16	1305731108	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 62557EB8C18	200
17	1305731108	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF B15D721FD2E	200
18	1305729800	SWAPOUT	0	5 DD597786C64	200
19	1305729800	SWAPOUT	0	6 440F42E2421	200
20	1305729800	SWAPOUT	0	7 45B86D8A56E	200
21	1305729800	SWAPOUT	0	8 B87FDF41E69	200
22	1305729800	RELEASE	-1	FFFFFFFF 4601CDE92A4	200
23	1305729900	SWAPOUT	0	0000000A 33A8CA57C6	200
24	1305729929			-2 application/json 35/35 GET http://api.bing.com/qsonhs.aspx?	
25	1305729929			1305727975 1 9 image/jpeg 8929/8929 GET http://col.stb.s-msn.com/i/46/68063C0AED19CD76AF08F335045CA.jpg	
26	1305729905			1 130582990 x-squid-internal/vary 1/82 GET http://www.bing.com/s/as/899538/en.js	
27	1305729929			1303241261 1 4 application/x-javascript 5505/5505 GET http://www.bing.com/s/as/899538/en.js	
28	1305729929			1305676132 1 9 image/jpeg 9019/9019 GET http://col.stb.s-msn.com/i/54/584F1AEB2E8C31953DCB5A63AA6DFB.jpg	
29	1305730888			1274194888 text/html -1/384 GET http://bdv.bidvertiser.com/bidvertiser.dbm?	
30	1305730890			1274194890 text/html -1/3602 GET http://bdv.bidvertiser.com/bidvertiser.dbm?	
31	1305730905			1305679570 image/jpeg 635/635 GET http://www.evil.evl/pwny.jpg	
32	1305730905			1125169856 image/gif 170/170 GET http://sketchy.evl/wp-includes/images/smilies/icon_wink.gif	
33	1305730907			1 271080000 unknown -1/0 GET http://pixel.quantserve.com/pixel;r=1338838344;fpan=1;fpa=P0-1285930934-130573	
34	1305731046			1305731046 application/x-javascript 1349/1349 GET http://ad.yieldmanager.com/imp?	
35	1305731046			1279523345 1 6 image/gif 4645/4645 GET http://content.yieldmanager.edgesuite.net/atoms/91/b3/26/b5/91b326b5	
36	1305731046			1 271080000 unknown -1/0 GET http://pixel.quantserve.com/pixel;r=722659626;fpan=0;fpa=P0-1285930934-130573	
37	1305731106			1305731106 1 6 text/html 0/0 POST http://sketchy.evl/wp-comments-post.php	
38	1305731107			1305731107 1 7 text/html -1/9000 GET http://sketchy.evl/?	
39	1305730893			1274194893 text/html -1/384 GET http://bdv.bidvertiser.com/bidvertiser.dbm?	
40	1305730893			1274194893 text/html -1/3609 GET http://bdv.bidvertiser.com/bidvertiser.dbm?	
41	1305729626			1280099790 image/x-icon 1150/1150 GET http://start.ubuntu.com/favicon.ico	
42	1305729799			-1 130582979 x-squid-internal/vary -1/109 GET http://start.ubuntu.com/8.04/screen-6c-24-24-12.css?	
43	1305729507			1238088519 text/css 2377/2377 GET http://start.ubuntu.com/8.04/screen-6c-24-24-12.css?	
44	1305729799			1238088519 image/png 258/258 GET http://start.ubuntu.com/8.04/images/bg-page.png	
45	1305729823			1269510163 1 3 image/gif 1607/1607 GET http://www.google.com/logos/Logo_25wht.gif	
46	1305729898			1238088519 image/jpeg 1258/1258 GET http://start.ubuntu.com/8.04/images/logo-bottom.png	

Figure 2.2.2

time zones to calculate timestamps. Most programming languages have libraries to help you converting time zones, calculating by hand might not be a good idea because of the variety of time zones en daylight saving times. But here's a list of time zones and offset in seconds.

Convert epoch to other time zone

Convert to time zone

Conversion results (1305730906)

1305730906 converts to **Wednesday May 18, 2011 08:01:46 (am)** in time zone **America/Los Angeles (PDT)**
The offset (difference to Greenwich Time/GMT) is -07:00 or in seconds -25200.
This date is in daylight saving time.

Other time zones

Pages

- Home
- Preferences
- Toggle theme

Tools

- Epoch converter
- Batch converter
- Time zone converter
- Timestamp list
- LDAP converter
- WebKit/Chrome timestamp
- Unix hex timestamp
- Cocoa Core Data timestamp
- Mac HFS+ timestamp
- SAS timestamp
- Seconds/days since year 0
- Bin/Oct/Hex converter
- Countdown in seconds
- Epoch clock

Date and Time

- Week numbers
- Weeks by year
- Day numbers
- Days by year

Figure 2.2.3

Conclusion

The NIDS/NIPS and Web Proxy Analysis lab taught me what tools I can use to to a) Perform log analysis on IDS/IPS alerts (Snort) to become familiar with alert formats and using them to investigate potentially malicious traffic and b) Perform log analysis on Proxy logs (Squid) to become familiar with proxy log formats, and how to review them to investigate web related traffic. This lab also gave me a good idea about how real-world digital evidences are collected and preserved for future use to dig deeper to investigate potential case of an insider threats just by capturing their logs and network activity.

After the analysis I was able to infer that, an insider from the company is using the internal host to browse images on various external sources, with one of them being a highly malicious domain. There were also the traces of admin level logins to .evl domain leading to a malicious .jpg file trying to inject shellcode.

Glossary

1. Network Intrusion Protection Systems (NIPS) and Network Intrusion Detection Systems (NIDS) are tested on the Technologies and Tools portion of the Security+ certification exam. This article details what is covered on the Security+ certification exam regarding these important network security devices. This article should not substitute for studying but rather serve as a brief review and guide for areas that you may need to look over again.
2. Firewall Analyzer (Proxy Log Analyzer) collects and archives the proxy server logs, analyzes them, and generates useful corporate internet access information reports. Proxy server reports provide network security administrators and managed security service providers (MSSP) with important insight into the efficiency of their corporate Internet usage. As a proxy log analysis tool, Firewall Analyzer supports BlueCoat, Microsoft ISA, Squid proxy logs and servers.
3. Wireshark is the world's foremost and widely used network protocol analyzer. It lets you see what's happening on your network at a microscopic level and is the de facto (and often de jure) standard across many commercial and non-profit enterprises, government agencies, and educational institutions. Wireshark development thrives thanks to the volunteer contributions of networking experts around the globe and is the continuation of a project started by Gerald Combs in 1998.
4. grep is a command-line utility for searching plain-text data sets for lines that match a regular expression. Its name comes from the ed command g/re/p, which has the same effect: doing a global search with the regular expression and printing all matching lines.
5. Snort is an open source network intrusion detection system (NIDS) created by Martin Roesch. ... Through protocol analysis and content searching and matching, Snort detects attack methods, including denial of service, buffer overflow, CGI attacks, stealth port scans, and SMB probes.

References

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